

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	THOMAS W. DAVISON	Confirmation No.:	6193
Serial No.:	10/686,154	Examiner:	VY Q. BUI
Filed:	OCTOBER 15, 2003	Group Art Unit:	3773
Docket No.:	1291.1134102	Customer No.:	33469
Title:	METHOD OF SECURING VERTEBRAE		

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and  
Trademark Office on the date shown below

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Cagliardi

March 25, 2010  
Date

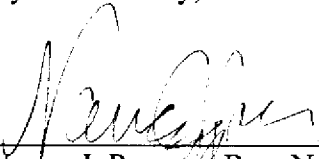
Dear Sirs:

This is in response to the Notice of Allowance and Fees Due mailed February 5, 2010, with a statutory period set to expire on May 5, 2010. With regard to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, while Applicants believe that the claims are allowable, Applicants do not acquiesce that patentability resides in each feature, or a single feature, as exactly stated by the Examiner, or as exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability. Applicants believe that there are additional reasons that the claims can be distinguished from the prior art, other than the reasons stated by the Examiner.

Respectfully Submitted,  
THOMAS W. DAVISON  
By his Attorney,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3/25/10

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy J. Parsons, Reg. No. 40,364  
CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC  
1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420  
Telephone: (612) 677-9050  
Facsimile: (612) 359-9349